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(to be used for all correspondence after initial filling)  Total Number of Pages in This Submission 4		Examiner Name  Attorney Docket Numb	3711  R. Gordon  987  3624-0147P
ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)			
Fee Transmittal Form  Fee Attached  Amendment/Reply  After Final  Affidavits/declaration(s)  Extension of Time Request  Express Abandonment Request  Information Disclosure Statement  Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)  Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application  Reply to Missing Parts under  37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	Change of Co Terminal Disc Request for CD, Number	onvert to a pplication mey, Revocation prespondence Address claimer	After Allowance Communication to TC  Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences  Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)  Proprietary Information  Status Letter  X Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below):  Reply to Notice of Non-Responsiveness Return Receipt Postcard
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT  Firm Name BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP			
Signature  Printed name  Joe McKinney Muncy	Miny		

Reg. No.

32,334

KM/asc

January 30, 2006

Date



Docket No.: 3624-0147P

Confirmation No.: 6856

(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Wen-Ching HOU

Application No.: 10/759,274

Filed: January 20, 2004 Art Unit: 3711

For: PUTTER HEAD Examiner: R. Gordon

## REPLY TO NOTICE OF NON-RESPONSIVENESS

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Communication issued by the Examiner on December 28, 2005, the following remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

An Election of Species Requirement was issued in the above-identified application on September 8, 2005. In response to this requirement, Applicants elected Species B of Fig. 8 for examination on October 11, 2005. In response to this election, the Examiner issued the Communication dated December 28, 2005.

This Communication alleges that the Reply filed on October 11, 2005 was not fully responsive to the prior Office Action. The Examiner states that, "Applicant is not allowed to elect all the claims in the application when a restriction is present." It is noted, however, that the Examiner has <u>not</u> given a Restriction Requirement, but rather given an Election of Species

Requirement. The Examiner should note that the requirement in the September 8, 2005 Office action was based on *drawings* and not *claims*. Also, as clearly stated in the second paragraph of page 2 of the September 8, 2005 Office Action, Applicants were required to elect a single disclosed species. The Examiner additionally noted in this paragraph that claim 1 was generic.

To support her assertion that "Applicant is not allowed to elect all the claims in the application when a restriction is present," the Examiner cited 37 CFR 1.111. However, 37 CFR 1.111 deals with reply by an applicant or patent owner to a non-final Office Action. Nothing is set forth in this section of the rules about the number of claims which can be elected in a response. Again, the Examiner seems to be confused, as an Election of Species Requirement has been given, but <u>not</u> a Restriction Requirement.

Again, in response to the Election of Species Requirement of September 8, 2005, Species B of Fig. 8 has been elected. Claim 1 is generic to all species, as has been noted by the Examiner, and the remaining claims all read on this species. Thus, all claims have been properly elected. If, for some reason, the Examiner does not consider one of these claims to read on the elected embodiment of Fig. 8, the Examiner can certainly supply reasons for this position. Nonetheless, upon a review of the specification and drawings, it should be clear that the elected embodiment of Fig. 8 does read on all claims.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the December 28, 2005 Communication and an action on the merits are now earnestly solicited. In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: January 30, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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